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SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION AFL-CIO, CLC



SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION AFL-CIO, CLC The Honorable Michael K. Powell Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SE Washington, DC 20554

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The Honorable Michael K. Powell Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SE Washington, DC 20554

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Re: Docket No. MB-02-235

ANDREW L. STERN International President

ANNA BURGER International Secretary-Treasurer

> PATRICIA ANN FORD Executive Vice President

ELISEO MEDINA Executive Vice President

TOM WOODRUFF Executive Vice President

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I am the President of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) and I am writing in regards to the Commission's review of the proposed merger between Univision Communications Inc. and Hispanic Broadcasting Corporation (HBC). As a union that represents many members we recognize that Univision is a media organization that has served the Hispanic community in many ways including not just entertainment but news and community service. It has been a positive economic and social force in the Hispanic community.

Continued growth of the radio and television business of Univision will inherently mean growth in media opportunities for Hispanics. I am informed that more than 80% of the work force of Univision is Hispanic and that it is expected to continue to grow. Hispanics are employed across the entire field of employment opportunities of Univision. In fact, 50% of the Univision Board and 65% of operating management are Hispanic. And over 130 Hispanic women hold management positions. I know that this is not by accident; but rather by design. Univision consciously and aggressively seeks out talented Hispanics for management positions.

When new capital investments are attracted to the Hispanic media, it results in increased competition and greater management and ownership opportunities for Hispanics. Major investors are increasingly interested in supporting entrepreneurs already engaged or considering entering the Hispanic media business.

The growth of Univision and its policies of training and promoting Hispanics have created a significant base of Hispanics who now have the expertise to own and operate a broadcast station or network. And, as a result of the pioneering work of Univision to raise the visibility of Spanishlanguage media, the Hispanic broadcast talent base now has access to financing sources and advertising sources that would have been unimaginable only a few short years ago.

The Honorable Michael K. Powell May 30, 2003 Page 2

Regarding the growth of Spanish-language media, I would like to make another point. I completely disagree with suggestions that this industry be segregated from other media. Over the past two decades, Spanish-language media has grown by competing with English-language media and isolating this industry would be a huge step backward that would eventually eradicate the success already achieved. It is an affront to all Hispanics to suggest that the media serving this community could be considered substandard or different from its general market competitors.

SEIU and its affiliates have worked with Univision and its affiliates on many occasions and truly appreciate and value that station's commitment to the betterment of our community. I am particularly grateful for the many public service announcement broadcast on their air as well as the indispensable information provided on their website.

Sincerely,

Andrew L. Stern

International President

Indu J. Stein

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